



Hardboat Diving Briefing

If you are prone to seasickness you should have taken a tablet before boarding the boat.

THE SKIPPER, THE BOAT AND PEER PRESSURE

The skipper will give us a short briefing when we get aboard. Listen out for information on where the safety equipment is stored (e.g. O₂ kit), methods of entry/exit to/from the water, and how to operate the heads. Ensure you know what type of ladder/lift is being used, so you know what to do at the end of the dive. If you are unhappy with any part of the briefing, or are unsure on procedures please ask someone. If you are not happy, tell your buddy right away. If this is before the dive, for any reason, do not succumb to peer pressure and consider sitting out the dive. You can always dive another day.

The skipper will give a full dive briefing prior to each dive which will include procedures for diving the site and for picking you up. It is your responsibility to listen to and adhere to his requests.

KEEP THE BOAT TIDY

When we board the boat, please find a spot on the bench, next to your buddy. Then store all your equipment neatly as requested by the skipper. Dry items (e.g. fleece, jacket) can be placed in the front of the boat, and the cabin. Please keep this area dry, and try to keep the dive deck tidy.

CHECK EQUIPMENT

Unless otherwise requested, put equipment together before leaving the port and check that it is in full working order. Please check cylinder contents and Nitrox content, and then turn the cylinder OFF. Before the boat leaves, please check that all your equipment is on the boat. Weights are a typical example of kit that gets left behind.

BUDDY CHECK

The skipper will tell us when to start kitting up. Do a buddy check before every dive. Prior to entry check you are not snagged on any part of the boat, and if entering by a backward roll entry check your mask strap has not slipped off your head.

ENTRY

On entry to the water, unless otherwise instructed, make your way immediately to the shot line and wait there for your buddy to join you (especially if there is a current running).

DESCENT AND EARS

A few points about dive procedures. Please start ear clearing immediately on leaving the surface and clear all the way down. If you cannot clear your ears ascend a metre or so and try again. If they won't clear ABORT the dive. Descend slowly and keep in good eye contact with your

buddy. Try to keep in touching distance of your buddy – if you are further away than this you will be unable to help in the event of a problem occurring. Stop briefly at about 5m to carry out a bubble check.

KEEP GOOD BUDDY CONTACT

During the dive keep close to your buddy, especially if the visibility is poor. Monitor your air regularly, and communicate it with your buddy. And also keep a close eye on your no decompression time. If you are separated from your buddy, PADI states that you spend one minute looking for them, and then make a slow ascent to the surface. Do not continue the dive on your own.

DSMB, MONITORING AIR AND USE OF THE PONY

Ensure you have plenty of air left for DSMB deployment, ascent and a safety stop – this will depend on your experience level, dive depth, etc., but please remain on the conservative side. You should be on the surface with 50bar in accordance with PADI recommendations. We can discuss an appropriate amount of air needed for the ascent when we know what dive we are doing. If you are unsure on DSMB deployment procedures please speak up. And if your reel jams on deployment let it go immediately or you could end up ascending out of control – we can collect it later – and use your buddy's DSMB.

[Pony cylinders are meant as a back up air source, and should not be used to prolong a dive.](#)

ASCEND CLOSE TOGETHER AND SLOWLY. DO A SAFETY STOP

On ascent keep in close proximity to your buddy and in eye contact. Ascend slowly – within the rate displayed on your computer, and certainly no faster than 18m per minute. Keep a good lookout for boat traffic, jellyfish, etc. A three minute safety stop at 5m is encouraged after EVERY dive, and longer stops are recommended in some conditions (i.e. cold water). Also, if the dive tables or your computer dictate a longer stop you should undertake it.

GETTING BACK ON-BOARD AND SURFACE COVER

On surfacing stay close together, and give the OK sign to the boat. Let the boat come to you. Ensure you are clear of the bottom of the ladder as your buddy climbs it, in case they fall off. After the first two divers have returned to the boat, and stowed their kit, they are to remain in their drysuits and act as safety cover until the next pair of equally or more qualified divers take over the role (in a membrane suit please consider buoyancy before re-entering the water). After all the divers have returned to the boat please enter your dive details in the divelog.

ACCIDENTS AND EMERGENCY OXYGEN

If you are involved in an accident, incident or are injured in any way please notify the skipper and dive leader. If you think you might be suffering from DCI/DCS inform

Divestyle Pirate Club



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someone, and ask to be put on oxygen immediately – DO NOT REMAIN SILENT.

And remember to drink **lots of water** during the day/weekend/week – don't get dehydrated.

WATER

Dive Safely and Have Fun!!!!